

TRUEX AMUSING IN MECHANICAL FARCE

Always Diverting in "No More Blondes" Despite Ancient Material.

"No More Blondes"—At the Maxine Elliott Theatre.

Why have the entrepreneurs of smiles grown so fussy about the labels on their goods? This question of names puzzled Juliet, and we wonder, too. Do the names of plays really matter so much after all? Isn't it what the public calls them that in the last analysis counts? "No More Blondes," which A. H. Woods produced last night at Maxine Elliott's Theatre, was made from "Ready to Occupy" over night. Maybe the new title implies the sincerity of A. H. Woods's reformation. He has left the bedroom farce behind him. "Ready to Occupy" suggests a more or less intimate domesticity. Was the play last night written by Otto Harbach from a story by Edgar Franklin, the first of a series of plays about blondes, which A. H. Woods will bring to his patrons?

ner, his sense of humor, his variety and the invariable artistry with which his talents are controlled make him a comedian always welcome. He was especially enjoyed in the three acts of this farce of life in New York, which had its scenes in a real estate office and in a private house. He was enjoyed indeed much more than the farce itself, which, after all, may go to prove that a part may be greater than the whole.

He was indeed so spontaneous in his humor that it was possible to overlook his occasional exaggerations. The familiar source of diversion had to be overemphasized, so stale was the material with which he was dealing. The minute Mr. Truex's humor came to an end the wheels began to whirl, all spontaneous fun stopped. Mr. Harbach had invoked all the devices of the world of farce to build up a play, and the union of Mr. Truex's style was not enough to lubricate them. There were an unrelated man and wife who by laws of society should have been far apart thrown together for a night. Having them im-

cently caged in a Riverside Drive home what would you do to make a holiday? Bring in of course the husband and wife of both parties. Then have the servants discover what the relations between the two lodgers are and take advantage of the knowledge. In this way a clever writer of farce like Mr. Harbach can keep up the hoop in indefinitely; indeed, until he and the spectators grow weary. One of the latter grew weary last night very soon of all but Mr. Truex's artistic acting and the skill with which Dallas Welford played a rapacious butler. His was farce acting of a most admirable kind.

Of course Mr. Truex was a little bridegroom from Cohoes and had a cute little bride of a few hours in pretty Nancy Fair. He had also a knowing friend, who put him temporarily into the house of another man where the story of "No More Blondes" began to unfold with varying effects. Elsie Wilson was the wife of the real owner, who arrived suddenly with a maid, played by Elsie Cargely, who spoke French with a

Czecho-Slav accent. Leo Donnelly with the misleading name played the officious friend. But the honors of the evening went to Mr. Truex and Mr. Welford.

MAURICE DUMESNIL IS HEARD IN RECITAL

French Pianist Gives Programme in Aeolian Hall.

Maurice Dumesnil, a French pianist who was heard in a series of recitals last season, appeared again yesterday afternoon in Aeolian Hall. The best qualities of his art were shown in the first two numbers on his programme, Haydn's F minor variations and Be-

ethoven's "Sonata Appassionata." In two such works any pianist can find a field for the display of his powers.

Mr. Dumesnil played better yesterday than he did at any previous recital. His art was always imbued with musical taste and scholarship was not wanting, but he was prone to hardness of touch and to a style leaning toward dryness. Yesterday he showed decided improvement in tone. There was more of the true singing quality and a wider variety. His reading of the sonata was cool and poised but it had considerable delicacy and much clarity.

Bill to Lend Farmers \$4,000,000. Washington, Jan. 7.—Senator Myers (Mon.) introduced to-day a bill appropriating \$4,000,000 to be lent to farmers in drought stricken sections of the United States for the purchase of seeds.

DUTCH CONSUL DINNER HOST.

Speaks for Closer Relations With His Government.

D. J. Steyn-Parve, Netherlands Consul-General to New York, entertained a group of commercial men, Government trade officials and bankers at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel last night and spoke in behalf of closer trade relations between his country and the United States. Among the guests were Ansell Clark of the Federal Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce; Guy Van Amringe, D. H. Andrews of the Netherlands Le-

gation at Washington. E. A. De Lima, president of the Battery Park National Bank; F. R. Mayer of Mayer & Lago, Inc.; C. van der Hoeven of Lindevee, Inc.; T. Fred Aspen, first vice-president of the Park Union Foreign Banking Corporation; W. H. Blackwell, treasurer of the General Rubber Company; L. Wit-teret van Hoogland and John W. Greene.

Throop College Gets Million. PARADISE, Cal., Jan. 7.—A New Year's gift of \$1,000,000 to Throop College of Technology, conditional upon an equal amount being raised from other sources, was announced to-day by President James A. B. Scherer. The name of the donor was withheld.



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